

## Programme of Short and Medium Term Response to the Influx of Refugees from the Central African Republic in Cameroon

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### **Why?**

The conflict in the Central African Republic has forced hundreds of thousands of people to move. Many of them have found refuge in Cameroon, particularly in the regions of the East and Adamawa, where it is estimated that the cumulative refugee population is about 228,000 people. The increase in population, due to the influx of refugees, generates significant socio-economic imbalances causing tensions over access to natural resources and to basic public services (water, health, education).

Duration of implementation (est.): 18 months

Total cost (est.): 4 500 000 euros

### **What?**

The overall objective of this action is therefore to **respond to the consequences of the crisis of the Central African Republic that have occurred in Cameroon**. More specifically, it is to lower the tensions in the short and medium term between local and refugee populations in host areas, including villages near the refugee camps, cross-border villages and those with the largest proportion of refugee populations or whose economy has been the most severely disrupted

### **How?**

The project aims to provide short-term solutions where it is possible to have an immediate effect on the social tensions generated by the influx of refugees, particularly in relation to collecting firewood, access to water, hygiene and sanitation and through income-generating activities, while preparing the foundation for an integrated refugee management strategy. This programme, which will be implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), has three components. Firstly, to strengthen the political dialogue with the Cameroonian authorities, in close relation with the authorities of the Central African Republic, at both local and national level, on the issue of refugees. Secondly, concrete actions will be carried out to reduce inherent tensions by collecting firewood through income-generating activities related to the coal industry. Thirdly, an appropriate response will be implemented in terms of access to water hygiene and sanitation on the basis of a diagnosis of priority needs established in consultation with the affected municipalities.

### **Expected results:**

- ✓ Identification and preparation of various scenarios for refugees' management / coordination of sectorial expertise and consolidation of dialogue at local and national levels of possible strategies to welcome refugees.
- ✓ Production and distribution of coal and the introduction of improved stoves in order to reduce the inherent tensions in collecting firewood by the refugees in the camps.
- ✓ Improving access to water through the rehabilitation and construction of drillings in the villages most affected on the basis of a diagnosis of priority needs.